Claims

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- Use of polyurethane-based associative thickeners and/or dipropylene glycol monoalkyl ethers for suppressing optical defects in multicoat color and/or effect paint systems or their refinishes.
- 2. The use as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the multicoat color and/or effect paint system and/or its refinish comprise or comprises at least one basecoat and at least one clearcoat.
- The use as claimed in claim 2, characterized in that the basecoat is produced from an aqueous basecoat material.
- The use as claimed in claim 3, characterized in that the aqueous basecoat material is polyurethane-based.

5. The use as claimed in any of claims 2 to 4, characterized in that the polyurethane-based associative thickener and/or dipropylene glycol monoalkyl ether is or are present in the basecoat material or materials.

6. The use as claimed in any of claims 2 to 5, characterized in that the polyurethane-based

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associative thickener and dipropylene glycol monoalkyl ether are present in the basecoat material or materials.

- 5 7. The use as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the optical defects comprise
 - light-colored spots, introduced by dried-up liquid residues and/or abrasion dust residues, which remain after the abrading of defects in a multicoat color and/or effect paint system or in a surfacer that is to be coated with a multicoat color and/or effect paint system; and
 - polishing spots, induced by the polishing of defects in a multicoat color and/or effect paint system which is performed for the purpose of refinishing the multicoat color and/or effect paint system.
 - 8. The use as claimed in any of claims 3 to 7, characterized in that the aqueous basecoat material comprises
- 25 (A) at least one water-soluble or -dispersible polyurethane,
 - (B) at least one crosslinking agent,

- (C) at least one color and/or effect pigment,
- (D) at least one neutralizing agent,
- 5 (E) at least one inorganic thickener, and
 - (F) at least one dipropylene glycol monoalkyl ether.
- 10 9. The use as claimed in claim 8, characterized in that the aqueous basecoat material comprises
 - (G) at least one polyurethane-based associative thickener.
 - 10. The use as claimed in any of claims 3 to 7, characterized in that the aqueous basecoat material comprises
- 20 (A) at least one water-soluble or -dispersible polyurethane,
 - (B) at least one crosslinking agent
- 25 (C) at least one color and/or effect pigment,
 - (D) at least one neutralizing agent,
 - (E) at least one inorganic thickener,

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- (G) at least one polyurethane-based associative thickener.
- 5 (H) if desired, at least one water-soluble or dispersible polyacrylate resin prepared in
 the presence of a water-soluble or dispersible polyurethane, and
 - (I) at least one water-soluble or -dispersible polyester resin.
 - 11. The use as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the aqueous basecoat material comprises
 - (F) at least one dipropylene glycol monoalkyl ether.
 - 12. The use as claimed in any of claims 8, 9 and 11, characterized in that the aqueous basecoat material, based on its overall weight, contains from 0.5 to 11% by weight of dipropylene glycol monoalkyl ethers (F).
- 25 13. The use as claimed in any of claims 9 to 12, characterized in that the aqueous basecoat material, based on its overall weight, contains from 0.1 to 4% by weight of at least one polyurethane-based associative thickener (G)

14. The use as claimed in any of claims 3 to 13, characterized in that the aqueous basecoat material comprises

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- (J) at least one additive.
- 15. An aqueous basecoat material comprising

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(A) at least one water-soluble or -dispersible polyurethane

(B) at least one crosslinking agent,

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(C) at least one color and or effect pigment,

(D) at least one neutralizing agent,

(E) at least one inorganic thickener, and

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 (F) at least one dipropylene glycol monoalkyl ether.

16. The aqueous basecoat material as claimed in claim
15, characterized in that it comprises

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(G) at least one polyurethane-based associative thickener.

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17 An aqueous basecoat material comprising

- at least one water-soluble or -dispersible polyurethane,
- (B) at least one crosslinking agent,
- (C) at least one color and/or effect pigment,
- (D) at least one neutralizing agent,
- (E) at least one inorganic thickener,
- (G) at least one polyurethane-based associative thickener,
- (H) if desired, at least one water-soluble or dispersible polyacrylate resin prepared in the presence of a water-soluble or dispersible polyurethane and
- (I) at least one water-soluble or -dispersible polyester resin.
- 25 18. The aqueous basecoat material as claimed in claim 17, characterized in that it comprises
 - (F) at least one dipropylene glycol monoalkyl ether.

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- 19. The aqueous basecoat material as claimed in any of claims 15, 16 and 18, characterized in that it, based on its overall weight, contains from 0.5 to 11% by weight of dipropylene glycol monoalkyl ethers.
- 20. The aqueous basecoat material as claimed in any of claims 16 to 19 characterized in that it, based on its overall weight, contains from 0.1 to 4% by weight of at least one polyurethane-based associative thickener.
 - 21. The aqueous basecoat material as claimed in any of claims 15 to 20, characterized in that it comprises
 - (J) at least one additive.
- 20 22. The use of the aqueous basecoal material as claimed in any of claims 15 to 21 for the original coating of motor vehicle bodies, industrial components, including electrical components, coils, and packaging, plastics or furniture, or for the refinish of multicoat color and/or effect paint systems present thereon.
 - Multicoat color and/or effect paint systems comprising at least one basecoat producible from



an aqueous basecoat material as claimed in any of